

**COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 16, 1997
MEETING MINUTES**

MEMBERS: Chairman Ron Moore, David Couch, Larry Fowler, Betsy Hudson, Dave Ballard, Jim Nelson, Steve Dooley, and Capt. Richard Yetter

GUESTS: Charles Robb, Bill Stewart, Bob Calkins, Rick Stephens, Mike Clark, L. D. Montgomery, Charlene Davis, Ray Perry, Mike Hayden and Linda Kubala

STAFF: Doug Robinson; Executive Director of KIRM and Jessamine Saufley

Chairman Ron Moore called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Activities Room at the Department for Libraries and Archives. The minutes of the March 21, 1997, meeting were approved unanimously. Chairman Moore asked the Workgroup Chairs to provide the Council members with updates.

Dave Ballard reported that the 800 MHz is the primary focus of activities for the Wireless Workgroup with mobile computing a consideration as well. Dave stated that the Commonwealth of Kentucky has entered into a contract with Omnicon as the consultant for the 800 MHz project. Dave said currently that the team has been making site visits to the states of South Carolina, Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Michigan to check out 800 MHz. They are looking at cost model, options and ways to fund project. Dave reminded members that the Wireless Work Group would be meeting following the CAC meeting. Dave asked for members to participate in the Wireless Workgroup.

Dave Ballard reporting for the Kentucky Information Highway (KIH) said that they may not be able to have the proposed legislation addressing the inclusion of non-profit hospitals and non-public K-12 schools added to the agenda of the current special session of the legislature. Dave commented that this proposal may have to wait until January of 1998 for legislative consideration. He added that the KIH contract needs to be amended to add graduated rates between 56 Kb and T1. Dave stated the recent regional Telecommunications Summit in Somerset was a success and Congressman Hal Rodgers announced additional funds for southeastern Kentucky during his keynote address at the KIH event in March. He added that the next event for the KIH marketing team would be during the Governor's Local Government and Issues Conference later this month.

Next Dave updated the Council on the status of ATM. Dave said that he met with Mike Hayden, State Government Project Director for BellSouth; Mike delivered the bid on behalf of the KIH consortium to provide ATM for the Commonwealth. Both Dave and Mike said that pricing and availability issues need to be resolved but the initial proposal looks good. Mike added that the approval process by the Public Service Commission could last from thirty to one hundred and eighty days.

Mike Clark reporting on behalf of Kentucky TeleLinking Network (KTLN) said the Stars School grant has been submitted to the U. S. Department of Education. Mike added that this grant will provide two million per year with a percentage match by the Commonwealth to KTLN for the next five years. The funds should be available in July and the plans are to allocate for network redesign, scheduling and temporary T1 lines. A portion of the funds will be allocated for mini grants to encourage the partners in the areas such as desktop computing. Some additional staffing will be needed for support and utilization training. Future plans are to hire a computer manager to set up and maintain a KTLN Intranet.

Jim Nelson provided the members with a legislative update and directed the members to review the handout in the meeting packets concerning the recent FCC Universal Service Order 97-157. Jim added some information on the rural telecommunications projects; the televillage set up in Pikeville and Elizabethtown. Jim stated that the FCC accepted most areas in the latest ruling concerning telecommunications. Schools and libraries will receive discounts as a result of the charges on the subscriber lines for businesses. Most of these charges will become effective July 1997 with the SLC charge effective in January 1998. Dave Ballard and the members entered into a discussion as to how this ruling and charges will impact the end users. Chairman Moore asked members how the CAC should be involved. After much discussion, it was suggested that Chairman Moore should draft an endorsement letter to be filed prior to the July 28 public hearing date. Doug Robinson added that he will check with the legal counsel for the Finance and Administration Cabinet to determine the best way to proceed in this matter.

Chairman Moore asked Doug to present the EMPOWER Kentucky update. Doug reported that seven business reengineering processes are under way with one in Finance and Administration Cabinet focused on determining the kinds of computer software available to improve how state government manages its finances and how it buys goods and provides services. As a first step, the team has issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) which will be used to see who qualifies for the Request for Information (RFI). Responses were due by late April. The final step prior to awarding the contract is a Request for Proposal (RFP) which is due by September 30. The final contract should be awarded by December 31. The Information Technology Strategic Planning Team is in the final stages of releasing the draft of the final document for comments and approval by the Kentucky Information Resources Management Commission (KIRM). The final document will be released after June 30. The Architecture and Standards Team is preparing a draft document. Doug highlighted some "quick hits" which have been identified to date such as consolidation of surplus or supply warehouses, materials delivered "just in time" and the Tax Gap Program which recovers taxes from tangible personal property taxes and returns to local governments across the Commonwealth. Doug reminded members of the EMPOWER website.

Doug reported on recent KIRM activities, told the members that May 21 is the deadline for the submission of Research and Development proposals for consideration for the 1997 grant awards. Doug reported a change in application guidelines and that the Research and Development Committee will be reviewing the grant requests. He informed members of the recent forum in Somerset funded with monies from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and that the remainder of this grant will be awarded in mini grants for telecommunications planning.

Next Doug explained the upcoming Information Resource Plan Review process, scheduled KIRM workgroup meetings and assignments of workgroups composed of members of KIRM and CAC. Doug explained the preliminary screening, comments and recommendations to be submitted electronically, access to the DIS intranet, report to the Capitol Planning and Advisory Board, deadline of July 1 for submission of agency/cabinets capitol items, access to briefings, findings and 1996-1998 plans and upcoming KIRM Commission meetings. Doug asked for questions or comments. Dave Couch asked about the criteria for evaluations. Jim Nelson added an explanation of the method for evaluating universities which is different from the past.

Chairman Moore called for the next agenda item. Chairman Moore explained that the by-laws provide for the Chairman of the Council to serve a two year term with the Vice Chairman having the option to succeed. Chairman Moore explained that a Nominating Committee needs to be established and convene for a meeting to select nominees for Vice Chairman as David Couch will become Chairman in July. The nominees need to be presented before the Council at the upcoming June meeting. Chairman Moore appointed Doyle Friskney, Steve Dooley and Jim Nelson to the Nominating Committee.

Chairman Moore asked if any of the members had any new business. He concluded the meeting by asking members for suggestions on how to encourage a OC3 point-of-presence in areas such as Lexington and Louisville. The next Communications Advisory Council meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 13, 1997 in the Department for Libraries and Archives Board Room. Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.